

lives through vocational and academic training.

Each year, Job Corps serves over 60,000 young people and nearly three million Americans have benefited from this service over the past 45 years.

Job Corps is considered the Nation's largest and most successful high school dropout recovery and youth empowerment program.

To celebrate Job Corps' 45th anniversary, I am hosting Sean Barnett in my office on September 23rd.

Sean was one of 60 students selected nationwide to shadow Members of Congress for the day.

Sean is currently an Advanced Career Training (ACT) student at the Cleveland Job Corps Academy. He is majoring in business and hopes to become an investment banker.

Sean has held several important student leader positions including Floor Leader in his dorm, Sergeant at Arms of the Student Government Association, Proctor, and Treasurer of the Student Government.

It is an honor to host a current Job Corps student and to designate the day that Sean Barnett interned in my office as National Job Corps Day. I wish Sean the best of luck and congratulate him for his involvement with Job Corps.

IN RECOGNITION OF MELVIN J. LARSON'S 54 YEARS OF SERVICE TO UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY OF WILL COUNTY

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Melvin J. Larson for his fifty-four years of service as a board member and founder of United Cerebral Palsy of Will County, now known as United Cerebral Palsy of Illinois Prairieland.

Melvin Larson's life has been one of service to others. He has said, "To make life a little easier for someone, I hope I can make some contribution to that end." That is exactly what he did. He moved to Joliet, Illinois in 1954 where he became the head of Joliet Junior College's (JJC) Department of Physical Science. Upon retirement in 1975 from a successful career at JJC, he began a quest to help others.

Melvin Larson formed the first Will County chapter of the United Cerebral Palsy organization, with a vision to provide an education to children with disabilities. The organization began with just six families, but quickly grew to 35. It was not long before they outgrew their single room in the former Rehn School and began utilizing an entire grade school building. Thousands of children have benefited from the school throughout the years, and today more than 60 children are currently enrolled.

The dedication, service, and commitment exhibited by Melvin Larson throughout his life merit recognition and should be showcased as an example for selflessness unto others. That is why today we must honor Mel's vision to provide an education to children with disabilities.

HONORING THE NEW HAVEN ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to the New Haven Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary. The Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is a non-profit organization dedicated to enriching our community through community service.

In its fifty year history, the New Haven Alumnae Chapter has focused its attention on the changing and diverse needs of our community. Their mission has been to actively engage the community—particularly young people—in public service. Their goals are rooted in the understanding that our communities thrive when every member contribute to its success. Since its inception, this outstanding organization has awarded over \$250,000 in college scholarships; has developed and implemented multiple programs benefiting our youth including Delta Academy and the GEMS mentoring program; Project S.E.E. (Science and Everyday Experiences) workshops; as well as their signature "18 and Registered" voter registration campaign. With each of the programs offered, the New Haven Alumnae Chapter is opening the doors of opportunity to our community's young people.

The membership of the New Haven Alumnae Chapter includes some of our community's most prominent community advocates—many of whom dedicate both their professional and personal lives to public service. These women stand as role models for every member of our community, but particularly for our young people. They inspire us with their deep commitment to community and compassion for others. Our communities would not be the same without organizations such as the New Haven Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Their efforts make it a better place to live, learn, and grow.

It is with great pleasure that I stand today to recognize the invaluable contributions the New Haven Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority have made to our community and to extend my heartfelt congratulations on their 50th Anniversary. They have made a real difference in our community and I wish them all the best for many more years of success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, on September 23, 2009, I was absent for rollcall vote 730 because of important committee business. If I had been present, I would have voted "nay."

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF BEARD'S 30 YEARS OF BRAVE AND SELFLESS SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITIES OF KANKAKEE AND BOURBONNAIS

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, this month marks Chief Joe Beard's 30 years of brave and selfless service to citizens of Kankakee and Bourbonnais, Illinois. Today, I join these communities in thanking Joe for his dedication and outstanding commitment.

Joe did not grow up dreaming about being a police officer. But in the midst of studying to become a history teacher, Joe felt the calling to enter law enforcement. After receiving a law enforcement administration degree from Western Illinois University, he was hired by the Kankakee County Sheriff's Department, where he served for several years before briefly pursuing a real estate career. But soon Joe was back fighting to protect Illinoisans. And in 1979, at the age of 27, Joe was named Police Chief of Bourbonnais, Illinois.

Whether it was responding to a massive train wreck on a spring night ten years ago that left eleven dead, 122 injured, and a pile-up of twisted steel and train cars in its wake across the Illinois prairie, or responding to a routine traffic stop, Chief Beard has exhibited tremendous courage and selflessness. During Joe's tenure as Chief, the police department has doubled, expanding personnel to answer new challenges and better serve citizens. Chief Beard, along with the Kankakee Area Metropolitan Enforcement Group (KAMEG), has been a leader in fighting drug crime.

Those like Chief Joe Beard keep our communities safe and provide families piece of mind to enjoy their lives. We all owe a profound debt to Joe Beard. On behalf of the entire 11th Congressional District, I thank Joe as he continues to serve the people of Bourbonnais.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMBASSADOR IRINA BOKOVA OF BULGARIA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, September 22, 2009, Irina Bokova, Bulgaria's Ambassador to France, was elected the director general of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). As the first female director of UNESCO, Ambassador Bokova brings her diplomatic and cultural knowledge as a former foreign minister of Bulgaria and her work in helping to bring Bulgaria into the European Union and the North American Treaty Organization (NATO).

As co-chair of the Congressional Bulgaria Caucus, I want to congratulate the people of Bulgaria and Ambassador Bokova for her success. Having visited Bulgaria first as an International Republican Institute election observer in June 1990 and since, I have seen firsthand this young democracy emerge from

the oppression of Communism to being one of the most dynamic democracies of Europe. On my multiple visits over the years to Bulgaria, I have always been inspired by the extraordinary people who have overcome totalitarianism for liberty and freedom. Bulgaria is a cherished partner of America, and we want the best for this nation of historic treasures.

HONORING CHESTER HUGHES, JR.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Illustrious Potentate of the Oman Temple No. 72, Chester Hughes, Jr. Chester will be feted at the 53rd Annual Potentate Ball to be held in my hometown of Flint, Michigan, on Saturday, October 3rd.

Chester Hughes received his B.S. degree from Jackson State University and his M.S. degree from Eastern Michigan University. He has taught at schools in Mississippi and Michigan, retiring from Beecher Community Schools in 2003 with 37 years of service. He served as the Regional Director of Amicus II during 2006–2007 and works part time at Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home. He is also the CEO of the Hughes Educational Leadership Institute and a PrePaid Legal Insurance Associate/Distributor.

Chester is affiliated with many community organizations and has received numerous awards from the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, the Central Optimist Club, the Flint Inner City Lions Club, the Flint Pan-Hellenic Club, the Urban League of Flint, and the Beecher School System. He has held several positions with the Oman Temple No. 72 and the Masonic Order. The 33 degree was conferred on him on May 26, 2008. Chester and his wife Myra have 2 children, DeWana Denise Hughes-McCarty and Chelonde Nichelle Hughes.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to applaud the life and work of Chester Hughes, Jr. I congratulate him on his elevation to Illustrious Potentate and may he continue to serve the community for many, many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HEROIC ACTIONS OF RICK DANIELS FOR HIS EFFORTS TO SAVE THE LIFE OF SAVANNA ZIRBEL

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, Rick Daniels of Kankakee, Illinois would tell you he is not a hero, but on Friday, July 3, 2009, he did something heroic.

Rick Daniels conducts himself not unlike the many great citizens of Illinois' 11th Congressional District. He is a normal guy. On July 3rd, he saw a neighbor in trouble. Although he is not a trained paramedic, he saw that 20-month old Savanna Zirbel was seriously injured from a mowing accident and sprang to action. Rick Daniels administered lifesaving first aid until paramedics arrived.

Some in this situation may have been scared to help, but Rick did not hesitate to assist. He focused on what might have happened if he had chosen to simply be an observer. The consequences were life and death. Savanna Zirbel is alive because of Rick Daniel rose to the occasion.

America's history has been one of ordinary individuals doing extraordinary things. Rick Daniels reminds us that we are capable of doing heroic things. On behalf of the entire 11th Congressional District, we thank Rick Daniels for his amazing efforts.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE APARTMENT ASSOCIATION OF GREATER DALLAS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Apartment Association of Greater Dallas (AAGD).

Founded in 1959 by a small group of dedicated professionals, the Apartment Owners Association of Dallas sought to establish a communication forum to share information and foster professionalism for the growing multi-family industry. Since then the organization has grown to over 1,000 members, representing members across 11 counties in North Texas and over 35 municipalities. Members of AAGD are wholeheartedly committed to providing quality and affordable housing for all apartment residents. They are also responsible for managing over 1,890 properties representing 435,000 rental units, which consists of more than 90 percent of the apartments and rental homes in the Dallas area.

As the nation's largest member based local apartment association, they are specifically devoted to the advancement of its members within the apartment industry ranging from legislative representation to education and certification programs to community service projects as well as a wide range of communication tools. Also functioning as a trade association, AAGD is dedicated to upholding and promoting the highest professional standards in the apartment industry.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in celebrating AAGD's 50th anniversary. Congratulations to AAGD on fifty years of dedicated service to the multifamily industry! I know their hard work and commitment to quality and affording living has benefited the many residents of apartment homes managed by AAGD members.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE SERGEANT TIMOTHY SMITH OF SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Timothy Smith of South Lake Tahoe, CA, who was killed in the line of duty

on April 7, 2007. Tim is survived by his wife Shayna Richard-Smith, their son Riley, his parents, Patricia and Michael, his brother Tom, and his sister Jackie.

Tim graduated from South Tahoe High School in 2001 and joined the Army in April 2004. He will always be remembered for his sense of humor, his warmth, and his great courage. Senator HARRY REID, on the floor of the United States Senate, called Tim Smith "a hero—a real-life American hero—who gave his life so that others might be safe."

Timothy Smith gave the ultimate sacrifice, may we never forget.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING ERIN METZGER FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, Erin Metzger showed hard work and dedication to the sport of softball; and

Whereas, Erin Metzger was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Erin Metzger always displayed sportsmanship on and off the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Erin Metzger on winning the Girls' Division IV State Softball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 softball season.

HONORING GENE TUNNEY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague Representative MIKE THOMPSON, to honor the life of Gene Tunney, who served as Sonoma County District Attorney for 20 years. Mr. Tunney passed away August 9, 2009, with his family at his side.

Born in New York City in 1931, Mr. Tunney was the son of the famous heavyweight boxing champion James Joseph "Gene" Tunney and brother of California Congressman and Senator John Tunney. After a stint in the Army, he moved to the Bay Area where he enrolled in law school in San Francisco. In 1971, he began his first job in Sonoma County as a Deputy Public Defender. A few years later he ran for District Attorney, narrowly winning the race. He served in that office for five more terms, from 1974 to 1994.

Mr. Tunney is credited with modernizing and professionalizing the District Attorney's office, guiding its transition in an era of increasingly urban types of crime. He placed restrictions on plea bargains and reviewed all felony cases while becoming an advocate for victims of crime. He was highly regarded for his sense of justice and for bringing changes to offices around the state after co-founding the California District Attorney's Association.